

General Preservation Plan for Local Governments

Utah State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

Local historic preservation activities should generally be undertaken in the following sequence: **Survey, Designation, Treatment**. This approach is both thorough and effective. Unforeseen circumstances may require deviation from this sequence on occasion, but that should occur only rarely. Public education activities should be a part of each phase. They can make a big difference in the success of a specific project and in creating greater awareness and support for the overall preservation program.

SURVEY

- Reconnaissance Level Survey (usually a city-wide, computerized inventory of all the historic buildings)
- Intensive Level Survey (in-depth historical research on the various owners of the building)
- Archaeological Survey (applicable only on a limited basis)

Public Education: newspaper articles, property owner contacts, public involvement, presentations to planning commission and city council, print walking tour booklets, conduct tours of historic sites as part of annual community celebrations, display of historic photos etc. at city hall or library, presentations to school groups

DESIGNATION

- Local Historic Sites List (created by a local preservation ordinance; lenient standards and non-restrictive)
- Local Landmark Register (created by a local preservation ordinance; more exclusive and restrictive)
- National Register of Historic Places (designations must be coordinated with the SHPO)

Public Education: newspaper articles, neighborhood meetings for owners of historic properties (to address questions/concerns, etc.), distribution of "fact sheets" to historic property owners so they are aware of the implications of designation, presentation of certificates or plaques to property owners by local officials, placement of plaques on buildings, walking tours, school programs

TREATMENT

- Pre-development: architectural and engineering services
- Development: rehabilitation of buildings, stabilization of archaeological sites
- Local Design and Demolition Controls: implemented through a local ordinance
- Local Preservation Incentives: conditional use, relaxed building code requirements, grants, etc.
- Tax Incentives for Commercial and Residential Buildings (federal and state tax credit programs)
- "Main Street" Approach for Downtown Revitalization

Public Education: annual preservation awards for outstanding rehab projects, tours through completed projects, ribbon cuttings involving local and state officials and the press, newspaper articles, "rehab in progress" signs displayed on site, exhibit of architectural drawings at city hall or library, "before" and "after" photos for newspaper or exhibit, coordination with planning commission and city council on planning and zoning related issues

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